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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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2-7-02

Applicant: LYLE TOWNSEND
Title: ROCK SIMULATING PEST TRAP
Serial No: 09/929,779
Filing Date: 08/14/2001
Attorney Docket No: TOWL 101
Date: October 18, 2001

RECEIVED
FEB 04 2002
GROUP 3600

Box: Patent Applications
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

In compliance with Applicant's and his attorney's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, the Applicant does hereby submit the following Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO - 1449, and copies of the references listed thereon.

A patent search was manually conducted for the invention described in the above-referenced patent application. In the course of the search, no patents were found for an apparatus that has the same structural features or that operates in the same manner such as the invention listed above. The following seven (7) patents, however, were noted as being of interest and are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention as references AA - AG. The significance of each listed reference is as follows:

AA. U.S. Patent No. 6,082,042 (Issitt) discloses a tamper-resistant bait station

1 comprising a housing, at least one rat entry, and a bait position for locating poisoned bait.

2 Several routes and dividers are included, offering rats the opportunity to eat in a confined
3 space.

4 AB. U.S. Patent No. 5,448,852 (Spragins et al.) discloses a molded plastic, tamper-
5 resistant rodenticide dispenser having a base with a floor from which exterior sidewalls
6 extend upwardly. A lid is joined to the base by an integral hinge. A passageway for pests is
7 formed within the interior volume of the covered base by two converging barriers, the ends of
8 which are spaced apart from one another to define a rodent feeding trough.

9 AC. U.S. Patent No. 5,040,327 (Stack et al.) discloses a polygonal bait station
10 having a straight first wall adapted to fit against a room wall, a second wall with two portions
11 at right angles adapted to fit in a room corner, two threshold portions, and third wall portions
12 to define a passageway. The passageway makes the pest comfortable by providing a sense of
13 easy access and retreat.

14 AD. U.S. Patent No. 4,730,412 (Sherman) discloses a tamper-resistant rodenticide
15 laterally divided bait station that isolates bait from the non-target species while allowing a
16 user-friendly method of reloading the station.

17 AE. U.S. Patent No. 4,611,426 (Willis) discloses a child- and pet-safe rodent bait
18 station formed by a rectangular hollow housing having transversely aligned see-through
19 rodent entry openings. An polygonal-shaped wall cooperates with housing side wall
20 indentations to restrict the passageway between the entry openings and the bait compartment
21 to exclude children and/or pets.

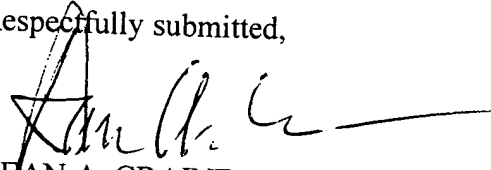
22 AF. U.S. Patent No. 4,550,525 (Baker et al.) discloses a tamper-proof rodent

1 baiting station with a generally triangular shape having rodent access entrance
2 that are connected via an entrance passageway along a first exterior wall.

3 AG. U.S. Patent No. 4,541,198 (Sherman) discloses a tamper-proof
4 station that is spill proof and provides the user with a highly safe device for the
5 poisons so that children, pets, pets and wildlife do not have access thereto.

6 The Applicant and his attorney submit that the above-cited references to
7 in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. No
8 references disclose or claim a pest trap comprising a hollow outer housing havi
9 shape and color to simulate a rock, an inner cavity having a partially concealed
10 pest-terminating means located inside a holding tray. The listed references rela
11 general field of the disclosure and do not constitute an admission that the refere
12 relevant or material to the claims; they are cited only as constituting the closest
13 the Applicant and his attorney are aware.

14
15 Respectfully submitted,

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17 DEAN A. CRAINE

18 Reg. No. 33,591
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)Applicant(s): **LYLE TOWNSEND**

Docket No.

TOWL 101

Serial No.

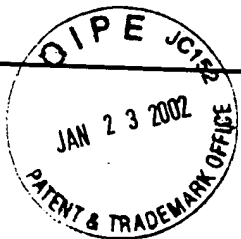
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Examiner

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3643Invention: **ROCK SIMULATING PEST TRAP**I hereby certify that this **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT***(Identify type of correspondence)*

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October 22, 2001*(Date)***Dean A. Craine***(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)**(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)*

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